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WEDNESDAY
DECEMBER 2, 1953

Physically disorganized, as usual, by the six hours' difference in time between here and Paris, E. and I were astir at seven and finally persuaded Jeanne, a late sleeper, to toss us some eggs.

At the Department, I engaged in a variety of conversations on European integration. At eleven I accompanied Foster, Livy Merchant, Doug MacArthur and Bob Bowie to the White House for a Bermuda roundup. The President was in good form and seemed in perfect health. I was asked to give a review of EDC prospects, especially in France. I made it as objectively and frankly as possible, and brought up the question I had raised last night, namely whether some statement from the President might be usefully made. He said he would think it over. There was an interesting discussion between the President and Foster on topics such as Egypt, Iran and other areas of tension. When the others left the President retained me and talked further about his firm belief in the necessity for European integration. He was cordial and charming, as he has always been, and I was delighted with the opportunity to have this exchange with him. He reverted to a point he had raised earlier, whether there would be any chance of the other five nations moving to a union without France which France eventually could join, and with which it would meanwhile be closely associated. I replied that I thought this would be refused by the Benelux countries but I would explore the suggestion when I returned to Europe. He said he was afraid a declaration from him to the French people might backfire, but he would give it serious consideration, especially since the French political leaders who had visited him always assured him they would obtain EDC ratification but did not seem vigorously to try to fulfill their engagements to do so. He asked whether speeches by Al Gruenther, who possessed his complete confidence, would be influential in this regard. I said Al had already done everything he could and might well impair

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his own standing as SACEUR if he again tackled such a task.

I went from the White House to Georgetown, where Walter Hallstein was waiting for me. He had seen the Secretary, Doug MacArthur and Livy Merchant last night. The Chancellor is opposed to any meeting with the Russians. I told Walter I was entirely and unreservedly of Foster's opinion that it should take place and quickly. We talked of this at length and I feel he will convince the Chancellor of the soundness of the United States' position. I asked him to do everything he could to keep Adenauer and Bidault in negotiation on the Saar. We had an hour of easy conversation before he left for his airplane.

I spent the afternoon in innumerable small meetings.

Tonight we had dinner alone with Kay and Phil Graham and had a perfect time. Phil is carrying the torch for European integration and is most constructive about it.

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